MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b). India and the European Commission have, under a Memorandum of Technical Cooperation, signed in October, 1990 agreed to set up a software Engineering Centre in India with the objective of increasing software exports to Europe and to build capabilities in India in the field of software Engineering so as to improve the competitive edge of the Indian Software Industry. The National Centre for Software Technology has been identified as the implementing agency to set up this Centre.

**Import of Silk Fabrics**

3847. SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of policy for import of fabrics including Silk fabrics under Duty Exemption Entitlement Certificate (DEEC) duty free import licensing to ensure that the imported fabrics is actually used in the export of garments;

(b) whether the Government are aware that both in Calcutta and Delhi large scale imports of silk fabrics have been made and sold in domestic markets; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Under Duty Exemption Scheme of the Import & Export Policy 1990–93 (Vol. I) the import of fabrics including silk fabrics is allowed only for manufacture and export of resultant products or for replenishment.

(b) and (c). The import under the above scheme is allowed with actual users condition. The Government is not aware of any misuse.

[*Translation*]

**Complaints about Wasteful Expenditure In NTC**

3849. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any complaints regarding the wasteful expenditure in National textile Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). Government receives from time to time general and specific complaints about wasteful expenditure in National textile Corporation.

(c) Wherever specific complaints of wasteful expenditure have been made, they have been looked into and appropriate action taken, wherever necessary.

[*English*]

**Ordnance Factory, Saintala**

3850. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount sanctioned till date for the construction of ordnance factory at Saintala (Badamal) in Orissa;

(b) the total estimated cost of the said project; and

(c) when the project is likely to be completed and start production?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b). It would not be in the public interest to disclose this information.

(c) Phase I of the project is scheduled/ anticipated to be completed by June – 1993 and production is likely to commence in 1993.

**Revision of Price Index**

3851. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether several trade union organisations have raised objection to the fact that the price indices do not reflect the increase in prices of various items correctly;

(b) if so, whether the government propose to revise the method of preparing price indices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The current series of consumer price index numbers (CPI) for industrial workers with base 1982=100 was released in October, 1988, restructuring and modifying the earlier series with base 1960. This series has been constructed based on methdology decided by the Technical Advisory Committee on Statistics of Prices and Cost of Living (TAC on SPCL) under the chairmanship of the Director–general, Central Satistical Organisation, with professionals from concerned ministries as members. Detailed discussions and consultations were held with the representatives of trade union organisations before the release of this series. A fresh Working Class Family Income & Expenditure survey is proposed to be conducted during 1992–93 to shift the base of the price index to 1992–93.

**Nhava sheva Port**

3852. PROF. RAM KAPSE:
SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI:
SHIR SHARAD YADAV:
SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN:
SHRI GURUDAS KAMANT:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether allegations have been made regarding serious financial irregularities in Jawahar Lal Nehru (Nhava Sheva) Port;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c)) the amount involved therein; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) to (c). In the Audit Report on the Annual Accounts of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust for the year 1990–91, certain Audit objections were raised. These relate to short levy of shortage charges in respect of bulk cargo; avoidable expenditure due to incorrect estimation in respect of container freight station; improper certification of certain bills; avoidable project expenditure; wrong payment to a contractor in respect of main civil works etc. Audit observed that this has resulted in loss of revenue to the Port amounting to about Rs. 7.67 crores.

(d The Audit objection swee examined by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port authorities